

CLAIMS

1. A composite netting comprising:
a continuous netting having a multiplicity of openings that are liquid and vapor permeable; and
a plurality of breathable material panels partially attached to the continuous netting at preselected intervals along the length of the netting, the breathable material panels being substantially vapor permeable and liquid impermeable, the partial attachment of the breathable material panels to the continuous netting being such that at least one preselected part of each of the plurality of breathable material panels is physically attached to at least one preselected part of the netting.
2. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the remainder of each breathable material panel is not attached to the netting so that when the continuous netting is stretched lengthwise, the breathable material panels are not correspondingly stretched lengthwise.
3. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein each of the breathable panels is aligned with and proximate to or contiguous with a corresponding part of the netting.
4. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the continuous netting is substantially rectangular, and has a preselected netting length and width, the breathable panel having a preselected panel length and width, the netting length being greater than

the panel length, and the netting width being greater than or substantially equal to the panel width.

5. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of breathable material panels is substantially rectangular, and has a preselected panel length and width, the panel width being selected to be substantially equal to a width of a spoilable item to be wrapped, and the panel length being selected to be substantially equal to the circumference of the spoilable item to be wrapped.

6. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the spoilable item to be wrapped is a bale.

7. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the spoilable item to be wrapped is a pallet holding spoilable agricultural produce.

8. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the interval is selected to be equal to about 2.5 times a circumference of a spoilable item to be wrapped.

9. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the breathable material panel has a leading edge and a trailing edge and each breathable material panel is attached to the netting along the leading edge of the breathable material panel.

10. The composite netting of claim 9, wherein the leading edge of each breathable material panel is separated from the trailing edge of another breathable material panel by a preselected distance.
11. The composite netting of claim 9, wherein the distance is selected to be at least about 1.5 times the circumference of a spoilable item to be wrapped.
12. The composite netting of claim 1, wherein the netting is Raschel knitted netting.
13. A composite netting for baling agricultural produce with a mechanized baling device, the netting comprising:
 - one or more netting segments of a continuous netting, each netting segment having a segment length that is preselected to be substantially equal to about 2.5 times the circumference of a bale of a spoilable item; and
 - one or more breathable material panels arranged on the continuous netting, each panel having a preselected length and width, each breathable material panel being partially attached to a netting segment, the partial attachment of the breathable material panels to the netting segments being such that each of the plurality of breathable material panels is connected in at least one preselected part thereof to a respective netting segment.
14. The composite netting of claim 13, wherein the remainder of each breathable material panel is not attached to the respective netting segment, but is

substantially aligned with and proximate to or contiguous with a corresponding part of a netting segment, such that when one of the netting segments is stretched lengthwise, the corresponding breathable material panel is not stretched lengthwise.

15. The composite netting of claim 13, wherein each breathable material panel is attached only along one of its edges to the respective netting segment, enabling each netting segment to expand or contract without substantially effecting the dimensions of the breathable material panel to which it is attached.

16. The composite netting of claim 13, wherein each breathable material panel has a leading edge and a trailing edge, the breathable material panel being attached to the netting along the leading edge.

17. The composite netting of claim 13, wherein the netting consists of a knitted netting.

18. The composite netting of claim 17, wherein the knitted netting consists of Raschel netting

19. A method for reducing spoilage of a bale of perishable items, the method comprising:

inserting a roll of composite netting into a mechanized baling device, the composite netting comprising:

a continuous netting having a multiplicity of openings that are liquid and vapor permeable; and

a plurality of breathable material panels partially attached to the continuous netting at preselected intervals along the length of the netting, the breathable material panels being substantially vapor permeable and liquid impermeable, the partial attachment of the breathable material panels to the continuous netting being such that at least one preselected part of each of the plurality of breathable material panels is physically attached to at least one preselected part of the netting;

wrapping the bale with a first section of netting to hold the bale together;

wrapping the bale with a second section of the netting, the second section holding a single breathable material panel against the bale; and

wrapping the bale with a third section of the netting having a sufficient length to grip the bale and prevent unraveling of the netting from the bale.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the remainder of each breathable material panel is not attached to the netting, so that when the continuous netting is stretched lengthwise, the breathable material panels are not correspondingly stretched lengthwise.

21. The method of claim 19 further comprising:

cutting one or more outermost layers of the netting along a centerline of the bale, such that the one or more of the outermost layers shift and substantially cover each lateral edge of the bale.

22. A method for wrapping a bale with a netting, the method comprising:

- inserting a roll of netting into a mechanized baling device, the netting comprising:
 - a continuous netting having a multiplicity of openings that are liquid and vapor permeable; and
 - a plurality of breathable material panels partially attached to the continuous netting at preselected intervals along the length of the netting, the breathable material being substantially permeable to water vapor and substantially impermeable to liquid water; and
- wrapping the bale with a first section of net to hold the bale together;
- wrapping the bale with a second section of net, the second section holding a single breathable material panel against the bale;
- wrapping the bale with a third section of net having a sufficient length to grip the bale and prevent unraveling of the netting from the bale; and
- cutting one or more outermost layers of the netting along a centerline of the bale, such that the one or more of the outermost layers shift and substantially cover each lateral edge of the bale.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the partial attachment of the breathable material panels to the continuous netting is such that when the continuous netting is stretched, the breathable material panels do not stretch

24. A bale wrapped with netting, the bale being substantially cylindrical shape having a circumference and two opposite substantially circular sides, the bale comprising:

- a center section of bound agricultural produce;
- a first layer of continuous netting wrapping the bale, binding the bale together;
- a layer of breathable material wrapping the bale substantially one time about the circumference, the layer of breathable material being partially attached to the netting, permitting vapor to escape from the bale and preventing liquid from entering the bale about the circumference; and
- a second layer of continuous netting wrapping the bale, at least partially holding the breathable material to the bale.

25. The bale of claim 24, further comprising:

- a third layer of netting material wrapping the bale, above the second layer of netting

26. The bale of claim 25, wherein the second layer of netting material comprises a netting layer that has been cut along a centerline of the bale, about substantially the whole circumference of the bale.

27. A composite netting comprising:

- a continuous netting having a multiplicity of openings, which are liquid and vapor permeable;

a plurality of breathable material panels partially attached to the continuous netting at preselected intervals along the length of the netting, the breathable material being substantially permeable to water vapor and substantially impermeable to liquid water.

28. The composite netting of claim 27, wherein the partial attachment of the breathable material panels to the continuous netting is such that when the continuous netting is stretched, the breathable material panels do not stretch or vice versa.